GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5643
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2002
PRICE OF CRUDE OIL IN INTERNATIONAL MARKET
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the price of crude oil in the international market during each of the last six months;

(b) the impact of higher price of crude oil in the international market on the domestic prices of petroleum products and oil pool deficit;

(c) whether the Government propose to adopt the policy of price controlled by market forces in regard to petroleum products instead of administrative prices thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a): The monthly average of the published prices of two major marker crude oils in the international market during the last six months, is as under:

($/bbl)

Period	Dubai	Brent(Dated)
October 2001	19.63	20.49
November 2001	17.67	18.98
December 2001	17.83	18.68
January 2002	18.48	19.48
February 2002	19.02	20.22
March 2002	22.96	23.73

(b): While there was no increase in the ex-storage point prices of petrol and diesel during the period October 2001 to March 2002, the prices of PDS kerosene and domestic LPG were raised during March 2002 to reduce the subsidy on these products. With the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism, the oil pool account has been wound up w.e.f. 1st April 2002.

(c) & (d): The pricing of all petroleum products, except for PDS kerosene and domestic LPG, which are subsidized products, have become market determined w.e.f. 1st April 2002.